

**Leisure and Health Portfolio
Councillor T A Cullen**

Report to Council – 17 December 2025

Event programme

Another successful season of Christmas Lights Switch On events has taken place recently, with events held in Beeston, Eastwood and Stapleford organised by the Council.

Not many people see the amount of work which goes on behind the scenes in planning these large, public events and delivering them on the day. From starting in the early hours of the morning and finishing in the early hours of the following morning, to spending months fine tuning a programme, only for things to change at the last minute, the Events Team are constantly assessing and reviewing to ensure events are safe and enjoyable for everyone attending. Most of this goes unseen by those attending, so a heartfelt thanks to the team for what they do.

Cabinet recently approved the event programme for 2026/27, which includes core events known and enjoyed by residents, but with some adjustments to keep the programme fresh and address the challenges faced in terms of rising infrastructure costs, inclement weather and continuing to engage with a wide range of groups.

The new programme has been designed to:

- Build on the good balance of events across the Borough into more rural areas such as Brinsley.
- Continue to provide family focused events around peak times like the summer holidays and Christmas, but create more regular opportunities for participation during other times of the year.
- Provide well-established events that existing visitors enjoy.
- Provide opportunities to showcase local community groups and talent.
- Balance indoor and outdoor provision, reducing weather-related risks and costs without compromising on quality activities.
- Provides opportunities to support the local economy during quieter periods.
- Utilise new culture and heritage facilities such as Brinsley Headstocks, Stapleford Skatepark and Pavillion and Bennerley Viaduct.

Some promotional material is currently being developed to promote the full year programme to residents.

D.H. Lawrence Birthplace MuseumNew collection item

An unusual item has returned home to the D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum. A pair of ‘umbilical cord’ scissors have joined the collection, 140 years after they were used in the home birth of the writer at the property.

Belonging to local legend Elizabeth Bower, the scissors would have been used to deliver hundreds, if not thousands, of babies in the Eastwood area – including Lawrence and his younger sister, Ada. The scissors now belong to the great grandson of Mrs Bower, who resides in Eastbourne, where the scissors have previously been displayed in a museum. Mr Bower has very kindly allowed the scissors to return to Lawrence's birthplace to be exhibited. The Lawrence and Bower family's links extend beyond midwifery, with Elizabeth Bower's husband and Lawrence's father, Arthur, working together as fellow Buttymen at Brinsley and then Moorgreen pit.

Pop Up Museums

Following the success of the Pop Up Museums which have attracted more than 1,200 people at some of the Council's summer events, the Museum has opened up this offering to other events in the Borough. Mostly recently, this has included attendance at Kimberley Christmas Market, giving visitors a chance to learn about the history right on their door step, as well as providing an opportunity to boost income with a pop up museum shop.

Beijing Partnership

The Museum is now a partner in the collaborative projects between Nottingham Trent University and the Communication University of China. One co-curated exhibition has already taken place at the Museum, which will be exhibited in China in Autumn 2025, and a further co-curated exhibition will take place in 2026, inspired by Museum handling objects being taken out on loan to China.

To celebrate Chinese New Year, students will take part in an event to compare the traditions of Victorian England, with a traditional Chinese tea making ceremony.

Deep Clean

The Museum will close next week for its annual deep clean. Over 2,000 items in the Museum's collection will be inspected and cleaned by Museum staff and volunteers as part of the exercise, which is industry standard.

Care of the collection is part of the requirements of the Museum of being an accredited Museum. The deep clean helps to preserve the collection and uses specialised techniques and materials to avoid damaging fragile objects and ensure environments remain free of dust and contaminants that can cause long-term harm. Deep cleaning also builds visitor trust and upholds the museum's reputation as a responsible caretaker of culture.

Following on from a pilot last year, a conservation tour will be on offer during the deep clean, giving visitors a unique opportunity to experience behind the scenes of this important process, gain experience with historic objects, learn about the importance of their conservation and even learn a few tricks to preserve their own treasures.

CCity Project

Preparations are well underway for the 2026 CCity conference, which will be hosted in Broxtowe in June. The conference programme is testament to the fantastic cultural and heritage offering that we have in Broxtowe.

Delegates of cultural experts from each of the CCity partner cities will experience this first-hand, including:

- Attenborough Nature Reserve
- The Arc Cinema
- Beeston Canalside Heritage
- The D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum
- Bennerley Viaduct
- The Garage, Chilwell on the site of the former Barton Bus depot

Dementia

Broxtowe Action Network on Dementia's (BAND) Dementia Listening Event was held on September 26th focussing on moving into a care home, preparing for end of life and partnership working. The event brings professionals together with people with lived experience. It looks at important topics of concern, shares information about what is available and identifies where there is room for improvement. More than 60 carers, professionals, volunteers and people with dementia attended the event at the Royal British Legion, Beeston and their evaluation was overwhelmingly positive.

Carers Roadshows

This year focussed on dementia and were held at Eastwood Library on 12 June, Stapleford Care Centre on 14 October and Beeston Library on 14 November.

Older Peoples Event

An event was held at The Helpful Bureau in Stapleford to support International Day of Older People on 1st October. The event aimed to support older peoples health and mental wellbeing with various stall holders in attendance.

Mental Health

A new suicide prevention resource pack aimed at the local community and voluntary sector has been released by Public Health. This provides a comprehensive resource of information about risk factors, helpful resources, information on how to talk about suicide and local training options.

Smoking in Pregnancy

Following discussions within the Broxtowe Partnership, Your Health Notts is piloting a stop smoking in pregnancy clinic in Eastwood at Eastwood Citizens Advice on Wednesday afternoons started 18th June this service will be by appointment.